Paper name: Information Sources, systems and Services(Theory)

Unit-1: Information sources

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Definition

The sources from where we get information are called information sources and these comprise of documents, humans, institutions as well as mass media like radio, television, CD-DVD, internet.

Features

- ➢ Availability
- ➢ Cost (affordability)
- ➢ Currency of information
- ➢ Amount of details
- ➢ Coverage
- ➢ Reliability
- ➢ Format
- ➢ Medium

Information Sources

Categories

Information sources by type

- Documentary sources of information
  - Books
  - Reference books
  - Periodicals
  - Patents and standards
  - Databases etc.

- Non-documentary sources of

Information sources by content

Primary sources
- Research periodicals
- Conference proceedings
- Theses, patent, standards
- Correspondence

Secondary sources
- Text books
- Reference books
- Bibliographies

Tertiary sources
- Bibliography of

Information sources by media

Print media
- Pamphlets
- Books
- Periodicals
- Newspapers
- Maps

Non-print media
- Conventional media
- Electronic media

Information Sources

Information sources vs. resources

- Information sources are the sources where from we get information

- Information sources are a small subset of information resources

- Information sources are related to library and information science

- Mostly librarians and information scientists deals with information source

- These sources comprise documents, institutions,

- Information resources are related to information and communication technologies especially to information management.
- For the purpose of information management there are Five types of information resources.
  - System support (including computers and telecommunications
  - Processing data, images etc.
  - Conversion and transformation including reprographics distribution
  - communication including network management and telecommunications
  - Retention, storage and retrieval which covers libraries, record centers, filing systems, internal and external databases

- Primary periodicals(solely devoted to originl work)
- Collections of papers(e.g. festschrift volumes)
- Conference proceedings
- Research reports
- Repots of scientific expeditions
- Official publications
- Patents
- Standards
- Trade literature

Information Sources
Documentary sources
Primary

- Theses and dissertations
- Laboratory notebooks
- Diaries
- Memoranda
- internal research reports
- Minutes of meetings
- Company files
- Correspondence
- Personal files

Information Sources
Documentary sources
Secondary

- Monographs
- Textbooks
- Bibliographies
- Indexing periodicals
- Abstracting periodicals
- Reviewing periodicals
- Dictionaries
- Encyclopaedias

- Yearbooks
- Almanacs
- Reviews
- Guidebooks
- Gazetteers
- Maps, atlas, globes
- Catalogues
- Directories
- Handbooks

Information Sources
Documentary sources

Tertiary

Sources based on secondary sources
- Bibliography of bibliographies
- Directory of directories

Sources that are key to primary and secondary sources
- Guides to literature

Information Sources
Institutional sources

- Government ministries and departments
- International agencies
- Academic institutions
- R & D organizations
- Academic institutions
- Learned societies
- Publishing houses
- Press
- Broadcasting stations

- Museums
- Archives
- Non-governmental organizations
- Library and information centres
- Documentation centres
- Information analysis centres
- Referral centres
- Data centres

Information Sources
Human sources

- Information professionals
- Consultants
- Experts
- Resource persons
- Extension workers
- Representatives of firms
- Technological gatekeepers
- Invisible college
- Common men

Information Sources
Non-print material

- Manuscripts
- Theses
- Project reports
- Diaries
- Letters
- Office files
- Laboratory notebooks

- Microforms
- CD recordings
- Video recordings
- Databases
- Computer files
- E-publications
- Humans
- Organizations
- World wide webs

Information Sources
Digital information sources

- E-books
- E-journals
- Online databases
- OPAC
- Electronic records
- Electronic magazine
- Electronic Images, audio, video
- Internet
- World wide web

Information Sources

Traditional vs. digital sources of information

- Traditional sources includes printed books, reference books, journals, maps and other physical media
- No advantage of remote access
- Physical space limitation restricts size and variety of collections
- Manual searching through catalogues or browsing shelves
- Lack interactive elements, promotes in-person interactions in library space
- Allows physical annotation methods using bookmarks or writing in margins
- Physical materials may degrade over time due to exposure, tear or mishandling

- Digital sources include e-books, e-journals, online databases, multimedia content
- These resources are typically accessed through electronic devices and can be remotely accessed
- Virtually unlimited storage allows extensive collections including rare and out of print items
- Advanced searching through keywords, boolean operators
- Offers interactive features, multimedia elements and hyperlinks
- Allows digital annotation, bookmarking, online discussion forums, virtual study groups

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